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WORK SET TO START ON THE NEW TUMUT HOSPITAL

Residents in the Tumut region can look forward to the construction of the new $50 million Tumut Hospital, with the awarding of the construction contract.

Murrumbidgee Local Health District (MLHD) Chief Executive Jill Ludford has announced Health Infrastructure has awarded the contract to Richard Crookes Constructions and the community will soon start to see the site being established ahead of works in early 2020.

This is a significant and exciting project milestone for the communities of Tumut, Adelong, Batlow and Gundagai.

Artist impressions have also been unveiled showing what the new hospital will look like.

“This is a facility that has been designed to meet the needs of the local communities now and into the future,” Ms Ludford said.

The redevelopment will allow staff to deliver a range of integrated health services under the one roof, including acute and emergency care, community health, outpatient and ambulatory services. There will also be a quiet room for families, a cultural room, car parking for staff and service vehicles, and a new helipad.

Construction of the new hospital is forecast to be completed in late 2021 when the services are transferred and the new facility becomes operational. The final works including demolition of old hospital buildings, landscaping and car parking will take place in the first half of 2022.

The NSW Government has invested $10 billion in health infrastructure since 2011, with $10.1 billion more over the four years from 2019-20, including more than $900 million for rural and regional areas in 2019-20.

“The State Government’s investment in health in our rural communities is vital. The value of hospitals to their communities extends far beyond healthcare. Redevelopments such as this at Tumut also provide positive economic and social flow on effects within our regional communities, which is very important especially in these times of drought,” Ms Ludford said.

Across MLHD there is significant development underway, including the $431 million Wagga Wagga Base Hospital redevelopment, $250 million Griffith Base Hospital redevelopment and redevelopments at Murrumburrah-Harden, Tumbarumba and Hay being delivered under the State Government’s $304 million Multipurpose Service (MPS) Program.

Construction of the new Barham MPS is now complete and in June this year the new Culcairn MPS was officially opened.

In addition works to start in the New Year on a new ambulance station at Cootamundra as part of the $122 million Rural Ambulance Reconfiguration (RAIR) program which has delivered new ambulance stations at Ardlethan, Coolamon, Griffith, Harden and Wagga Wagga throughout the District.

The 2019-20 budget for MLHD is $641 million, an increase of $27 million on the previous financial year’s annualised budget.

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